IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.

Serial No. NEW

Filed September 10, 2001

OPTICAL DISK MOLDING APPARATUS AND METHOD [Corresponding to PCT/JP00/01455 Filed March 10, 2000] Attn: BOX PCT

Docket No. 2001 1290A

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants request consideration of [X] the references listed on attached form PTO-1449 and/or [] the additional information identified below in paragraph 3. A legible copy of each reference listed on the form PTO-1449 and each U.S. patent application listed below is enclosed, except a copy is not provided for each reference previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in prior parent application Serial No.

1a. [X] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

within three months of the filing date (or of entry into the National Stage) of the aboveentitled-application, or

before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits,

and thus $\boldsymbol{n}^{\scriptscriptstyle \perp}$ certification and/or fee is required.

1b. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted

after the events of above paragraph 1a and prior to the mailing date of a final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance or an action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and thus:

- (1) [] the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, or
- (2) [] the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.
- 1c. [] This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

after the mailing date of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance or action which otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and prior to payment of the issue fee, and thus:

the certification of paragraph 2 below is provided, and

the fee of \$180.00 specified in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

- 2. It is hereby certified
 - a. [] that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement, or
 - b. [] that no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Statement.
- 3. [] Consideration of the following list of additional information (including any copending or abandoned U.S. application, prior uses and/or sales, etc.) is requested.
- 4. For each non-English language reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449, reference is made to:
 - a. [] a full or partial English language translation submitted herewith,

- b. [X] a foreign patent office search report (in the English language) submitted herewith,
- c. [] the concise explanation contained in the specification of the present application at page,
- d. [X] the concise explanation set forth in the attached English language abstracts,
- e. [] the concise explanation set forth below or on a separate sheet attached to the reference:
- 5. [] A foreign patent office search report citing one or more of the references is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.

By

Michael S. Huppert Registration No. 40,268

Attorney for Applicants

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September 10, 2001

Sheet 1 of 1 533 NEC CIPTO IN SEP 2001									
FORM PTO 1449 (m		MENT OF COMMERC	CE	ATTY DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. 9 9 36 164 NEW					
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)				APPLICANT Takaaki HIGASHIDA et al.					
(Use several sheets if necessary) Date Submitted to PTO: September 10, 2001				FILING DATE September 10, 2001			GROUP		
			U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME CLASS		SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	АА								
	АВ								
	AC								
	AD								
	AE								
	AF								
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS									
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSL YES	
•	AG	8-90617	4-9-96	JF	>			Abstr.	
~	АН	7-290527	11-7-95	JF	>			Abstr.	
`	ΑI	1-159223	6-22-89	JP				Abstr.	
	AJ	6-31782	2-8-94	JP				Abstr.	
~	AK	8-25434	1-30-96	JP				Abstr.	
_	AL	8-207161	8-13-96	JP				Abstr.	
~	AM	2000108169	4-18-2000	JP				Abstr.	
_	AN	9-155934	6-17-97	JP				Abstr.	
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)									
	AO								
	AP								
	ΔQ								
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED				

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.